

Attorney's Docket: 2000DE135
Serial No.: 10/004,601
Art Unit: 1756

- 2) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coated pigment granules have a wax content of from 5 to 40% by weight, based on the overall weight of the coated pigment granules.
- 3) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wax coated pigment particles further comprise an organic pigment, and wherein the organic pigment is an azo pigment or a polycyclic pigment.
- 4) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the polycyclic pigment is selected from the group consisting of an isoindolinone, isoindoline, anthanthrone, thioindigo, quinophthalone, anthraquinone, dioxazine, phthalocyanine, quinacridone, perylene, perinone, thiazineindigo, diketopyrrolopyrrole and azomethine pigment.
- 5) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wax is selected from the group consisting of natural wax, modified natural wax, semisynthetic wax, fully synthetic wax, amide wax, chlorinated or fluorinated polyolefin wax, thermoplastic polyester resin, epoxy resin, styrene-acrylate copolymer resin, styrene-butadiene copolymer resin and cycloolefin copolymer resin.
- 6) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the fully synthetic wax is a polyolefin wax, a cycloolefin copolymer wax or a polyethylene glycol wax.
- 7) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the polyolefin wax is a polyolefin wax containing polar groups which has been formed by subsequent oxidation of the polyolefin wax, by graft reaction with monomers containing carboxylic acid, carboxylic ester, carboxylic anhydride or hydroxyl groups, or by copolymerization of an olefin and a monomer containing carboxylic acid, carboxylic ester, carboxylic anhydride or hydroxyl groups.

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8) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wax has a dropping point of between 60 and 180°C.

9) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coated pigment granules are spray dried.

10) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coated pigment granules further comprise a charge control agent selected from the group consisting of triphenylmethanes; ammonium and immonium compounds; iminium compounds; fluorinated ammonium compounds and fluorinated immonium compounds; biscationic acid amides; polymeric ammonium compounds; diallylammonium compounds; aryl sulfide derivatives; phenol derivatives; phosphonium compounds and fluorinated phosphonium compounds; salt-like structured silicates; calix(n)arenes; resorcinols; cyclically linked oligosaccharides, interpolyelectrolyte complexes; polyester salts; metal complex compounds; boron complexes of 1,2-dihydroxyaromatics, 1,2-dihydroxyaliphatics or 2-hydroxy-1-carboxyaromatics; benzimidazolones; azines, thiazines, and oxazines.

11) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the charge control agent is present in the coated pigment granules in an amount of from 0.1 to 30% by weight, based on the overall weight of the coated pigment granules.

12) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrophotographic toners are selected from the group consisting of liquid toners and powder toners.

13) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coated pigment granules are used in an amount of from 0.1 to 90% by weight, based on the overall weight of the compound.

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CONT.

14) (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coated pigment granules are in the form of a masterbatch.

Please add new claims 15 through 17 as follows:

15. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wax has a dropping point of between 80 and 140°C.

16. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coated pigment granules are used in an amount of from 0.5 to 40% by weight, based on the overall weight of the compound.

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17. (New) A colored compound comprising coated pigment granules having a particle size of between 0.05 and 5mm and a wax content of from 1 to 50% by weight, based on the overall weight of the coated pigment granules, wherein the colored compound is selected from the group consisting of a binder for electrophotographic toners, a binder for electrophotographic developers, powder coating materials, a base for inkjet inks, electret materials and color filters.